

*Smart Farming for Europe: Value Creation  
through Precision Livestock Farming*

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Copenhagen, Denmark

# Overview

- What is Precision Livestock Farming (PLF)?
- Examples to create **VALUE**
- Conclusions

# Thank to the M3-BIORES team and our partners

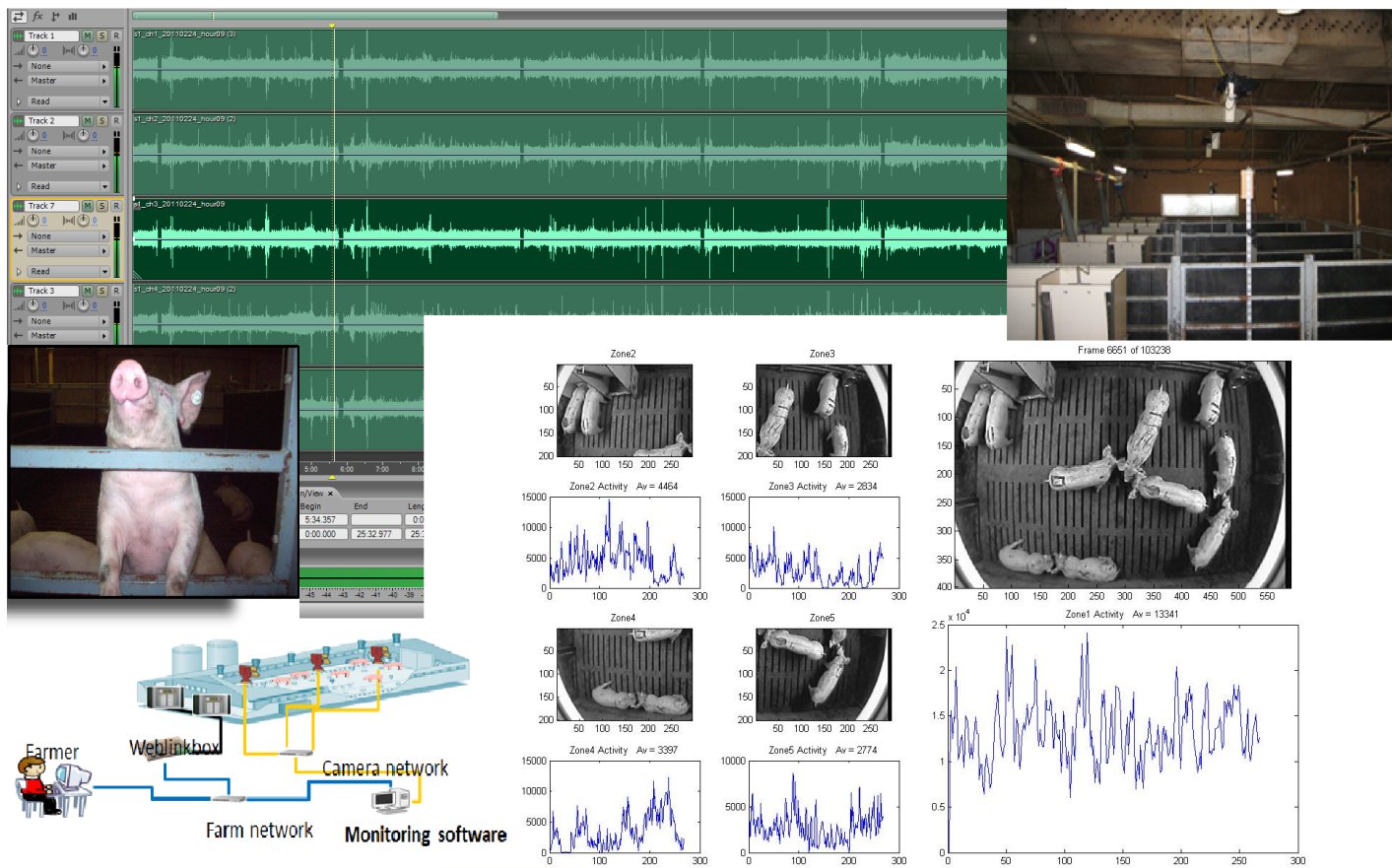


M3-BIORES KU LEUVEN

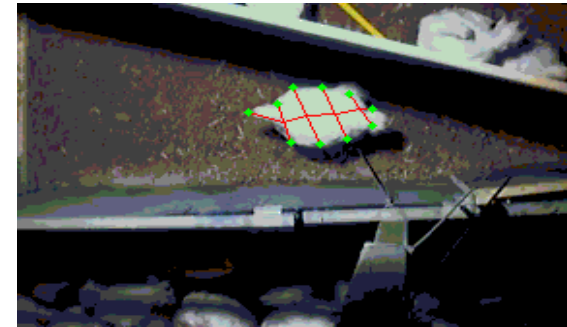
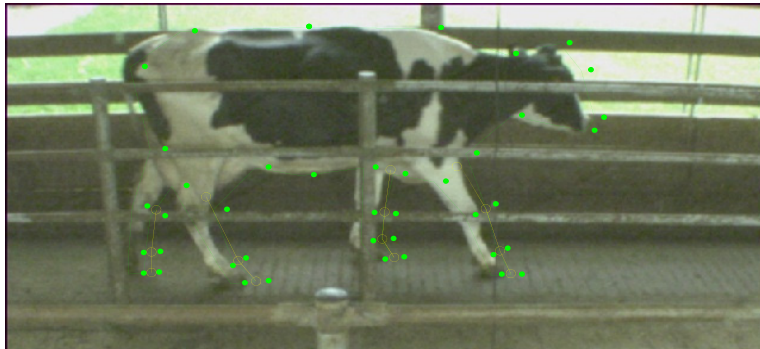
# What is Precision Livestock Farming (PLF)?

# Today...Automated Systems

Technology can help to quantitatively measure **behaviour**, **health** and **performance** of animals.



# What is Precision Livestock Farming?



“ Management of livestock farming by continuous automated real-time monitoring/controlling of production/reproduction, health and welfare of livestock and environmental impact.”



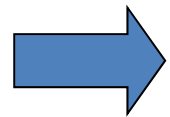
# A living organism:

**C**omplex

**I**ndividual

**T**ime-Varying

**D**ynamic



Living organism = **CITD** - system

1. Measure

2. Model

3. Manage =  
Monitoring

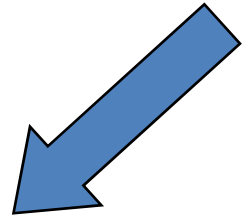
- Fully Automated
- Continuously
- In Real-Time

**Examples of PLF  
Technology:  
What is possible today?**

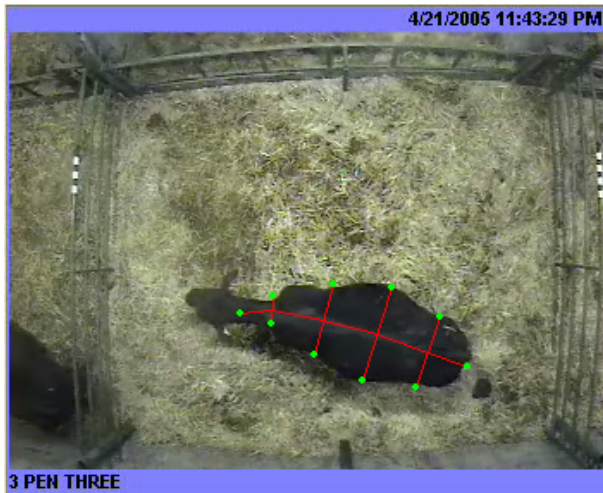
Fully automated monitoring



# Several sensing techniques can be used



Image

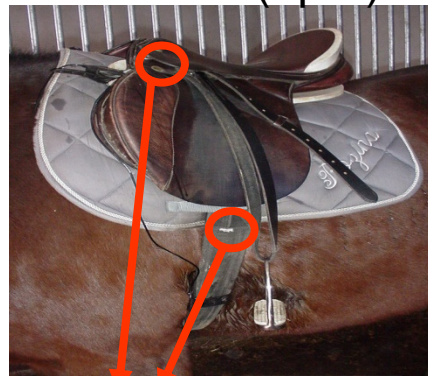


used

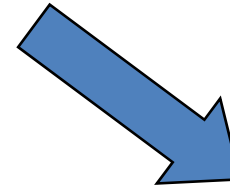


Sensors

Heart rate (bpm)



Heart rate monitor  
(Polar S610i)



Sound



# Example 1:

## Lameness Monitor for cows

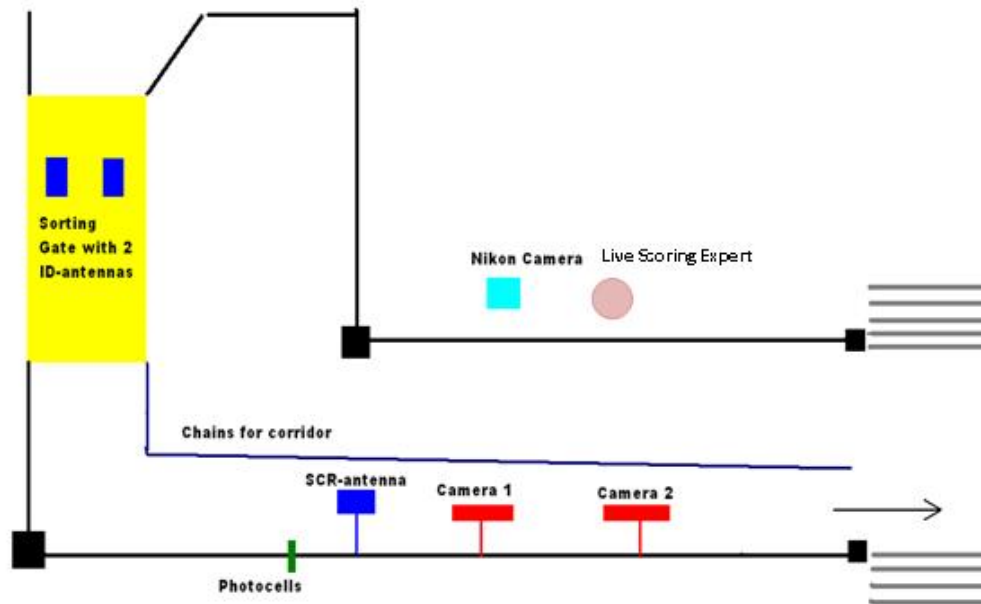
i.c.w. Wageningen, The Netherlands

VoLcani Research Institute, Israel

De Laval, Sweden

# Individual lameness detection of cows

## Experimental setup

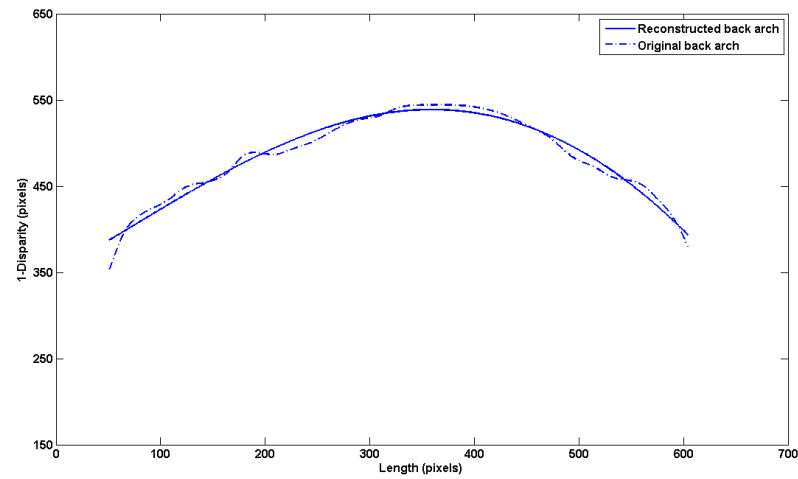
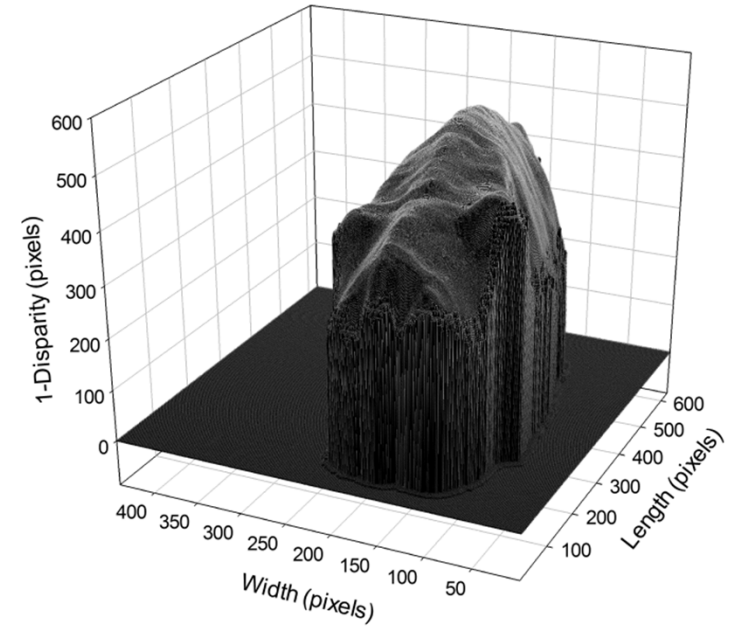


- Farm with 1000 cows
- Camera 25 fps
- Resolution: 1920 x 1080 pixels
- 90 cows recorded for 2 months
- 8 cows had lameness evolution

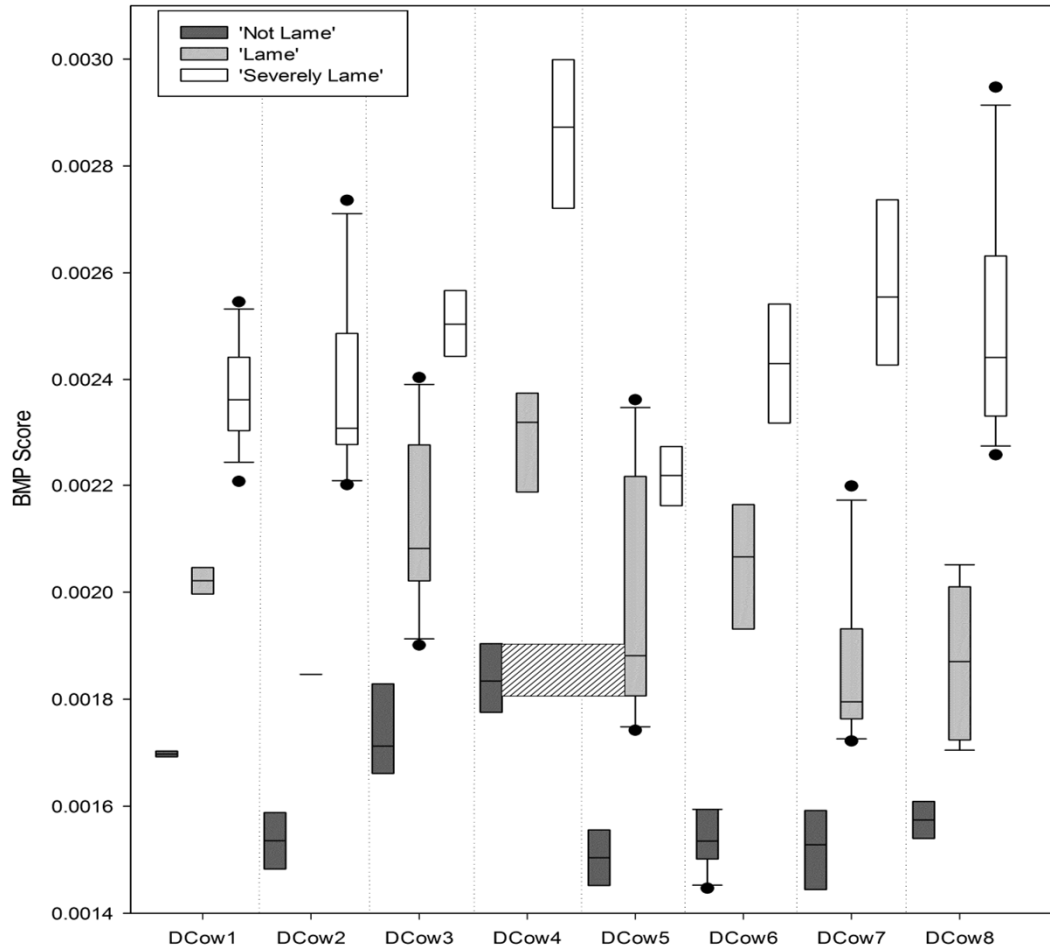
# Results: Active Appearance Model



# Back posture



# Results

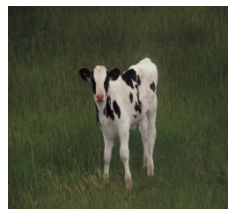
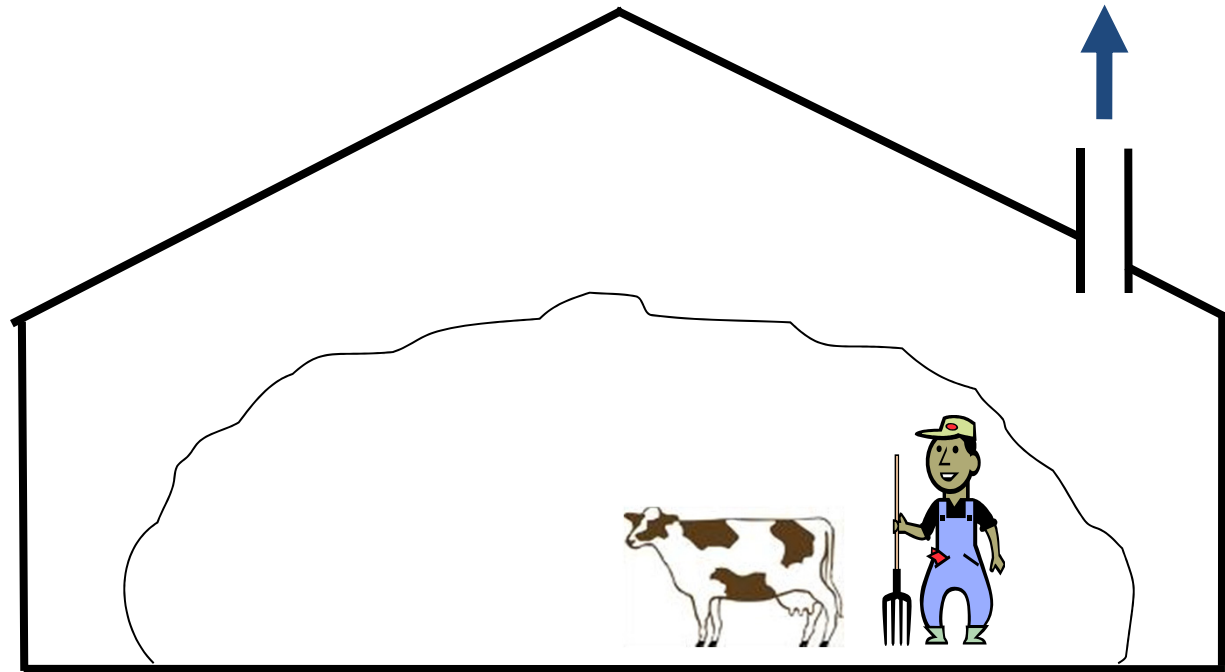


Cow	True Positive Rate	False Positive Rate	Accuracy
1	0.93	0.01	0.93
2	0.89	0.22	0.89
3	0.86	0.11	0.86
4	0.91	0.05	0.91
5	1.00	0	1.0
6	1.00	0	1.0
7	0.86	0.08	0.86
8	0.88	0.05	0.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.91</b>

Dataset	True Positive Rate	False Positive Rate	Accuracy
<b>Group</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.80</b>
<b>Individual</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.91</b>

Individual threshold can increase the sensitivity with more than 10%

# Value:



**Welfare**



**Health**

# Example 2:

## On-line Pig Sound Analysis

i.c.w. UMIL, Italy

SoundTalks, Belgium

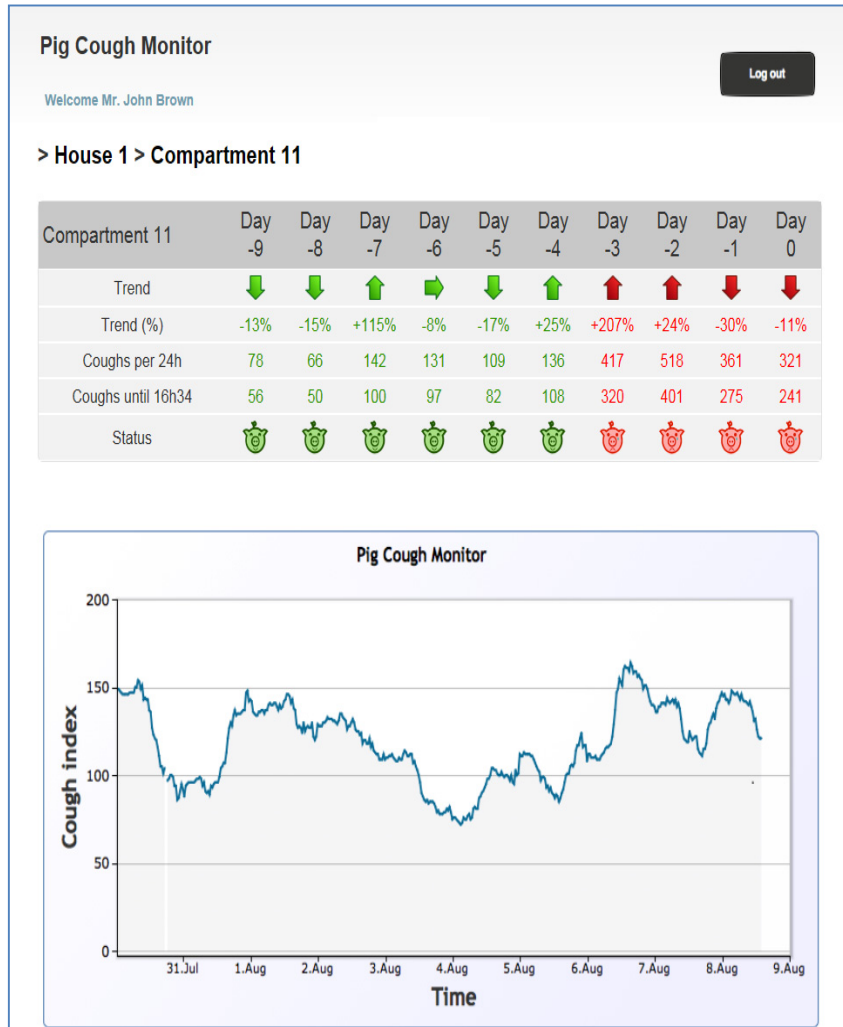
Fancom, The Netherlands



# On-line Pig Sound Analysis

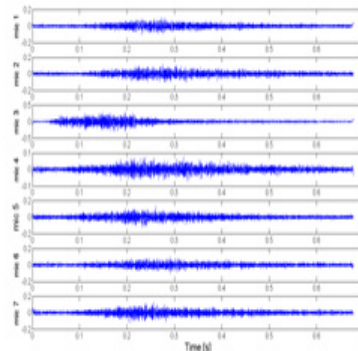
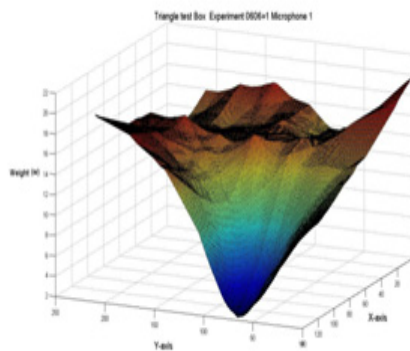


# Pig cough monitor into a Commercial product

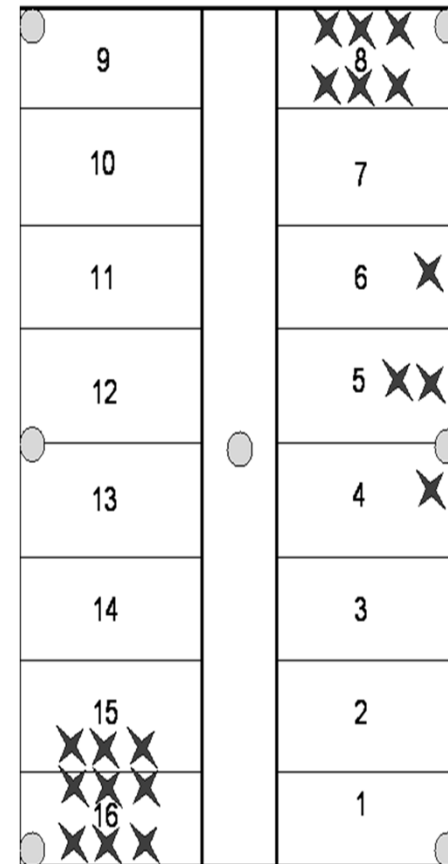


# Localize cough sounds and follow the infection front in a house

Using several microphones in a stable, the location of the cough sounds can be determined

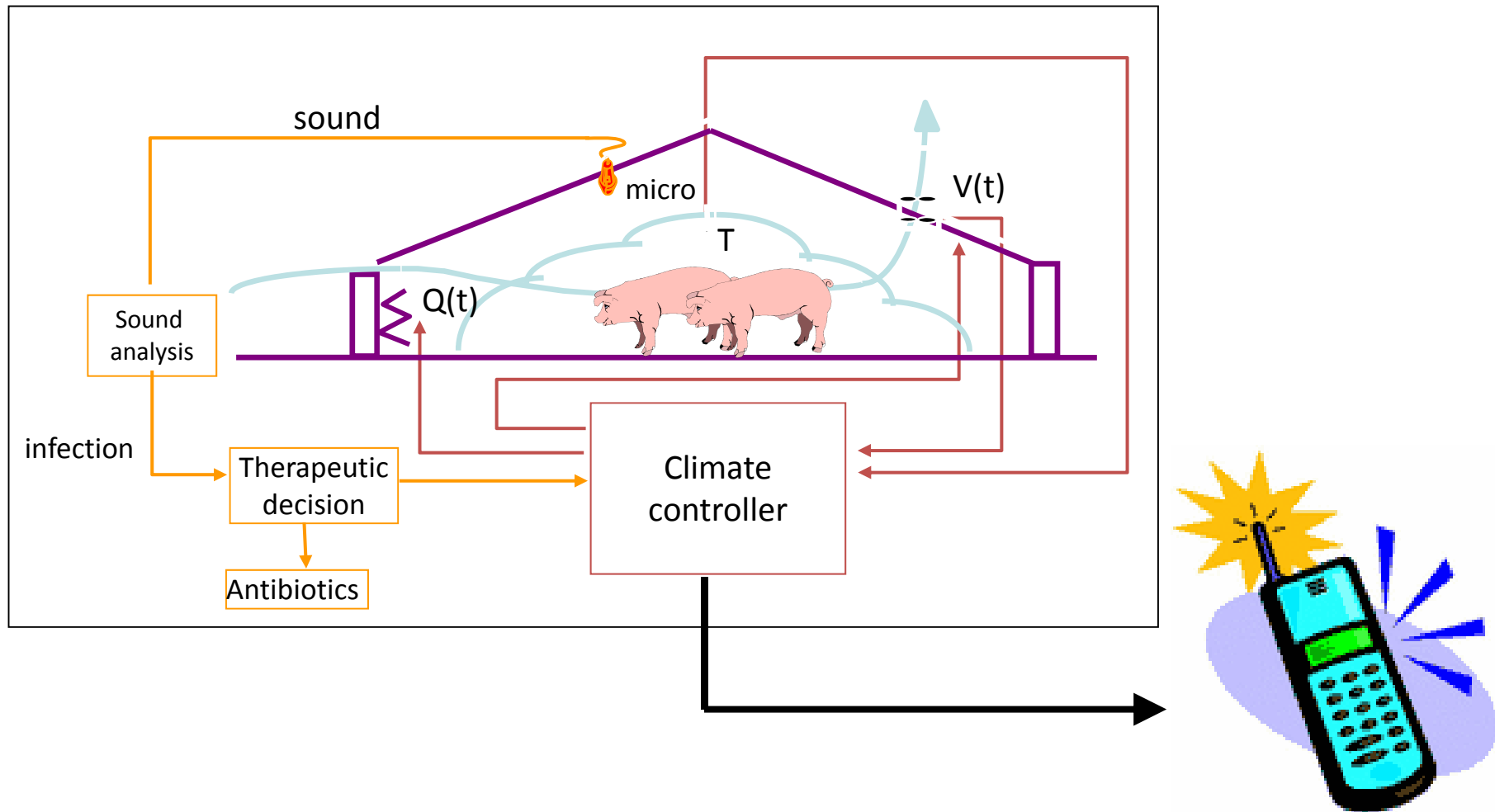


○ Microphone  
 ✕ Detected Cough

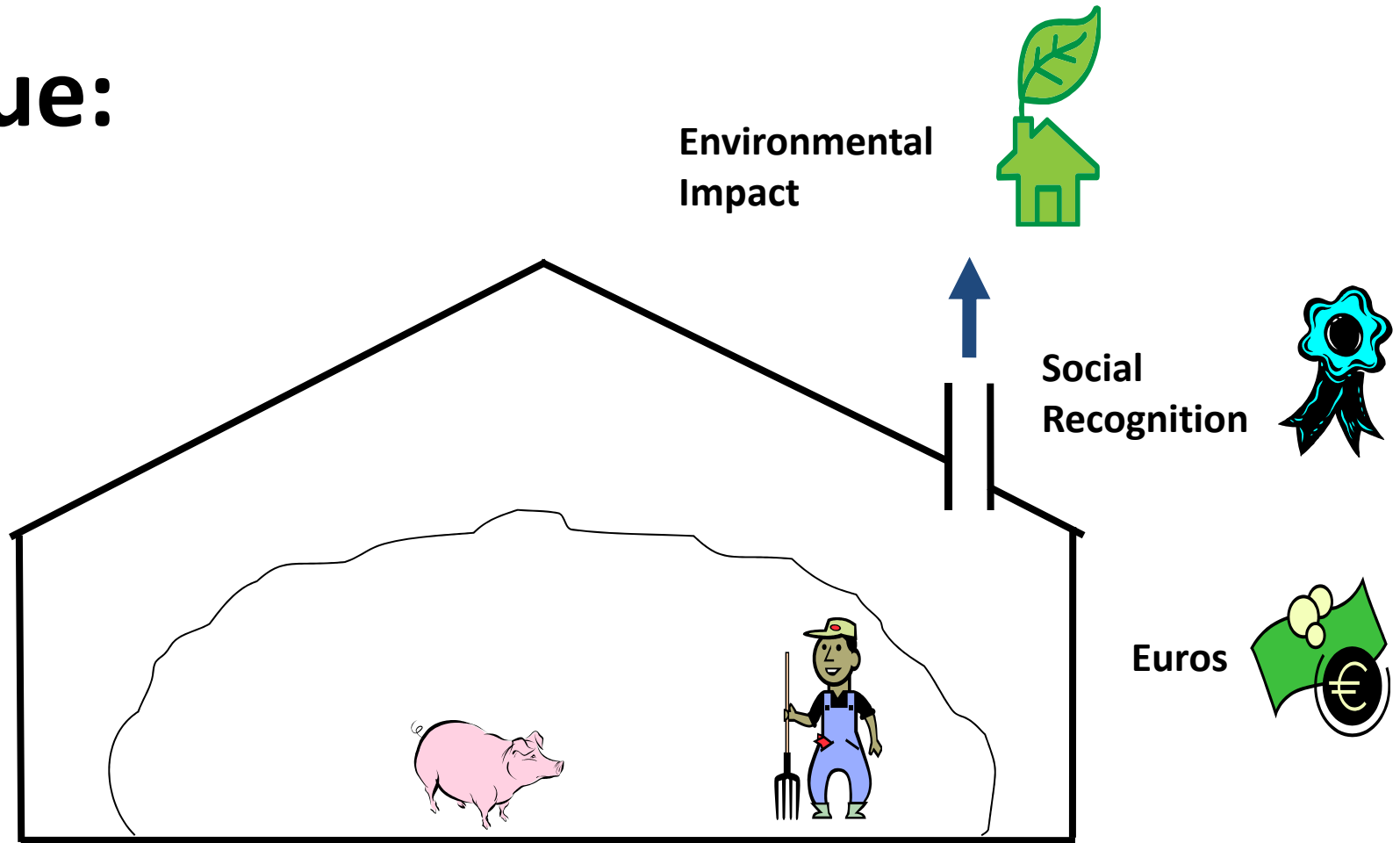


- M. Silva, S. Ferrari, A. Costa, J.-M. Aerts, M. Guarino, D. Berckmans, Cough localisation for the detection of respiratory disease in pig house. *Computers and Electronics in agriculture*, 64:286-292.

# Main future application: Reducing the use of Antibiotics



# Value:



Health

# Example 3:

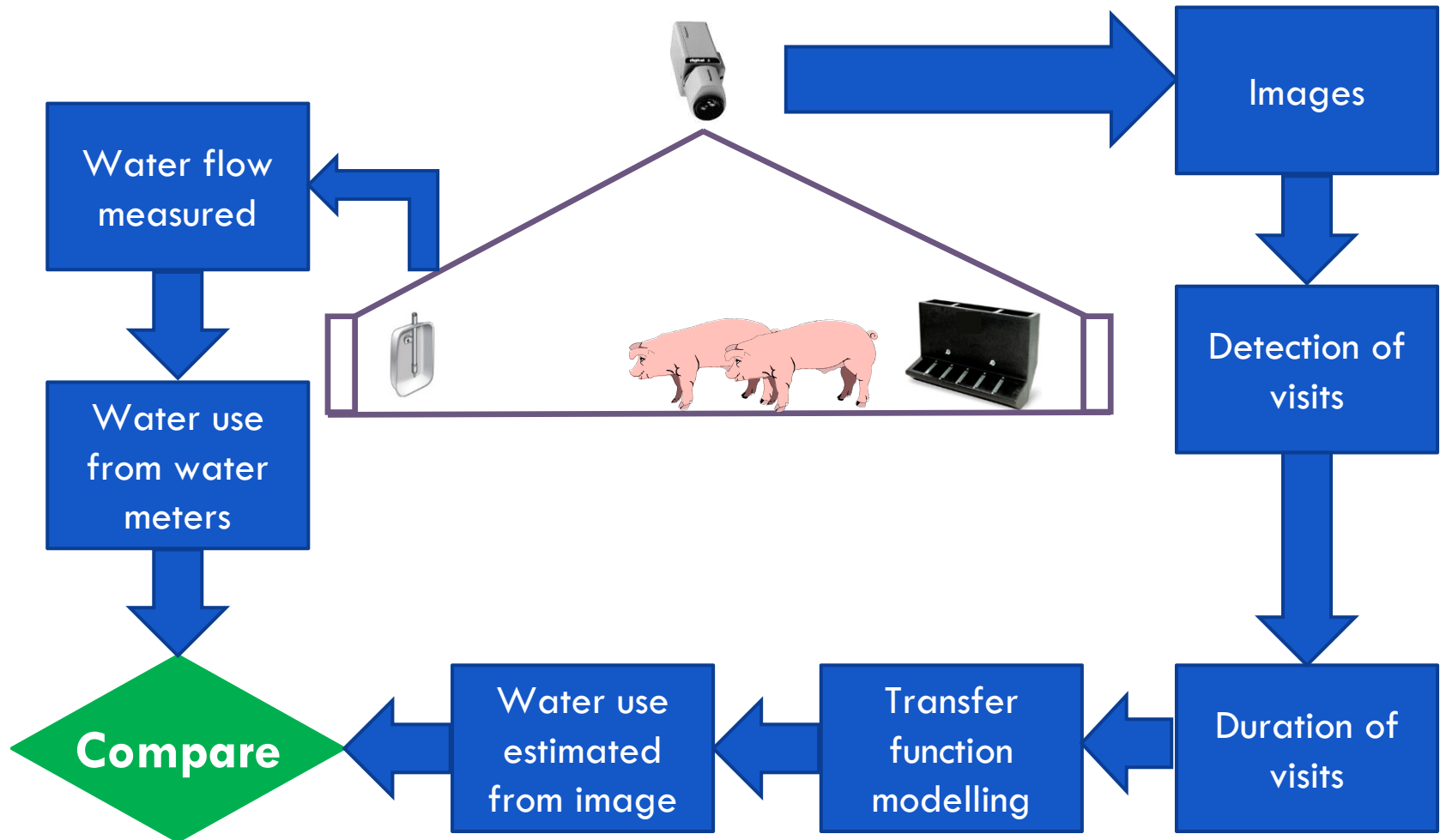
Monitoring of pigs' drinking behaviour

i.c.w. Ughent, Belgium

# Monitoring of pigs' drinking behaviour

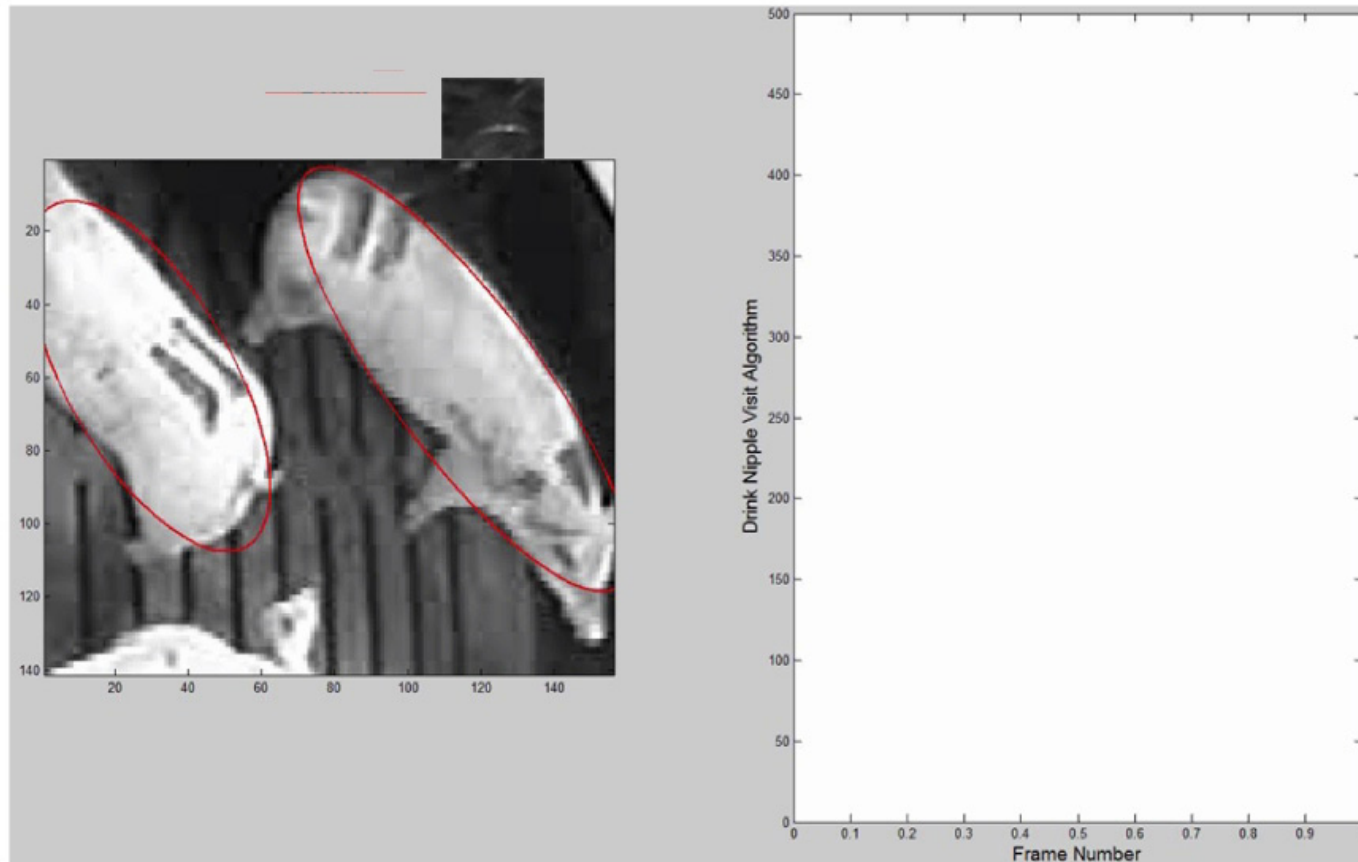
- Monitoring duration of visits to the drink nipple in a pig pen
- Estimate hourly water use by real-time analyses of drink nipple visits

# Model-based monitoring of water use

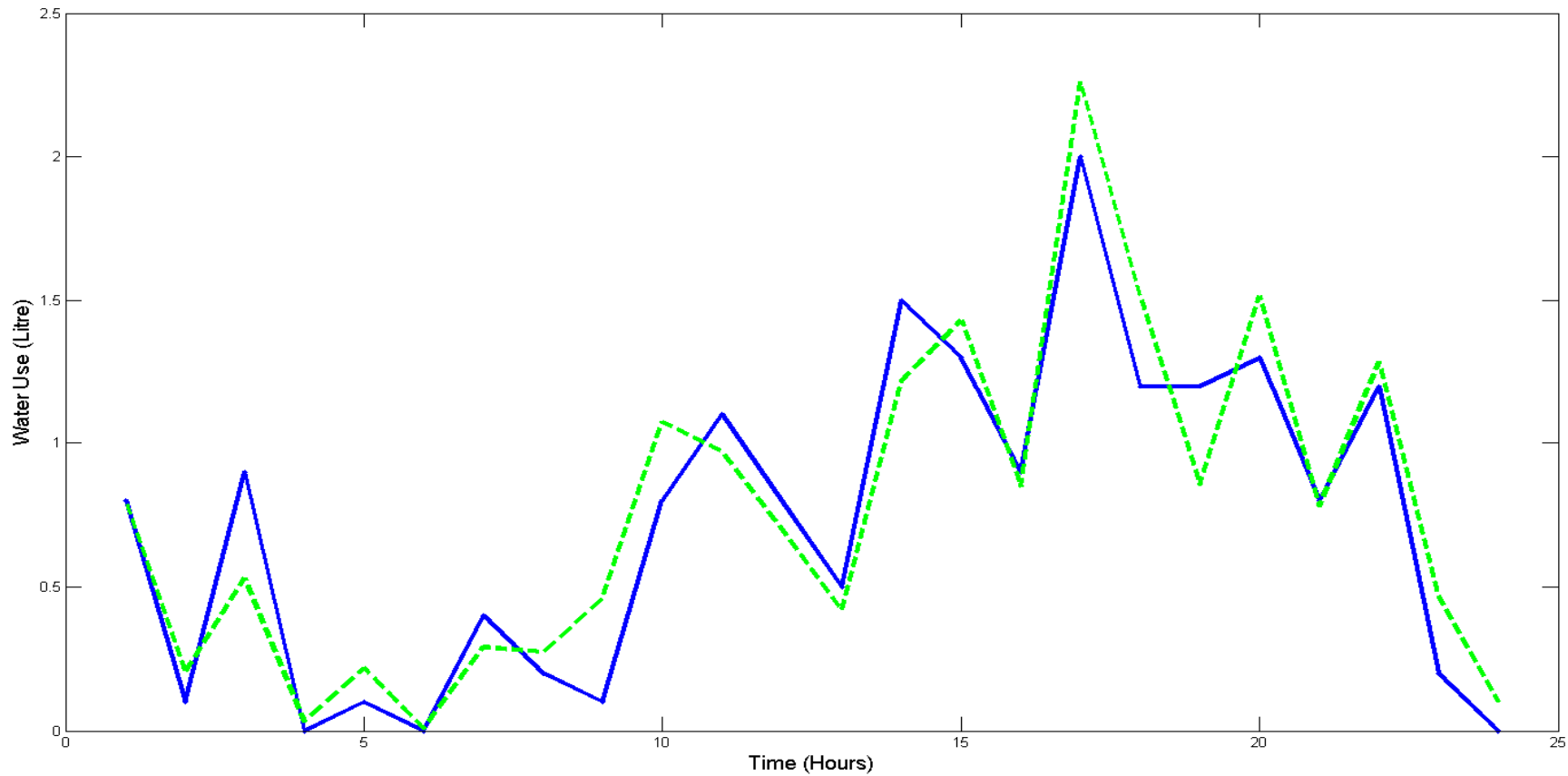




# Model-based detection of visits

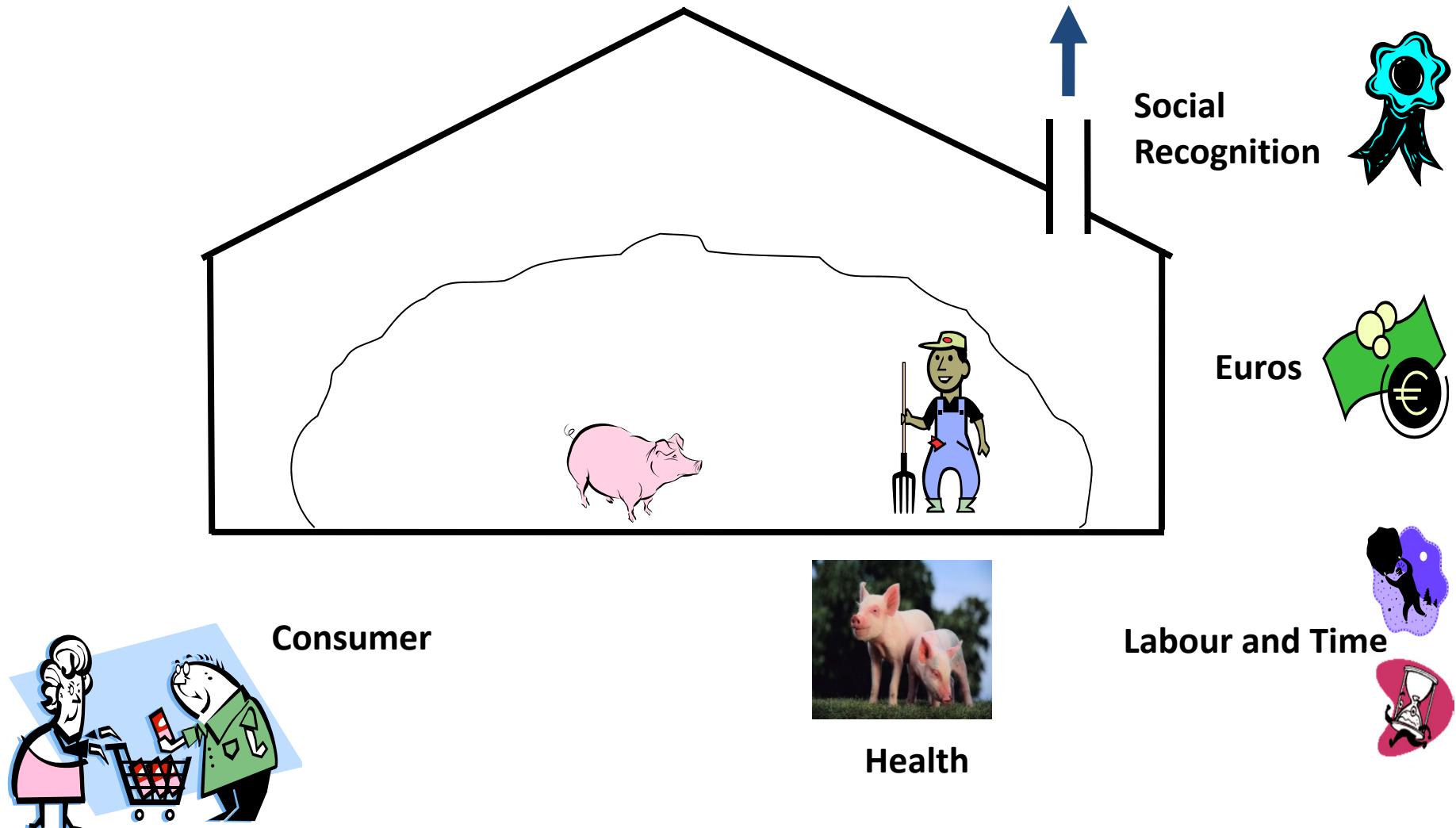


# Results



Hourly water use can be estimated with an accuracy of 92% or 200 ml over 13 days

# Value:



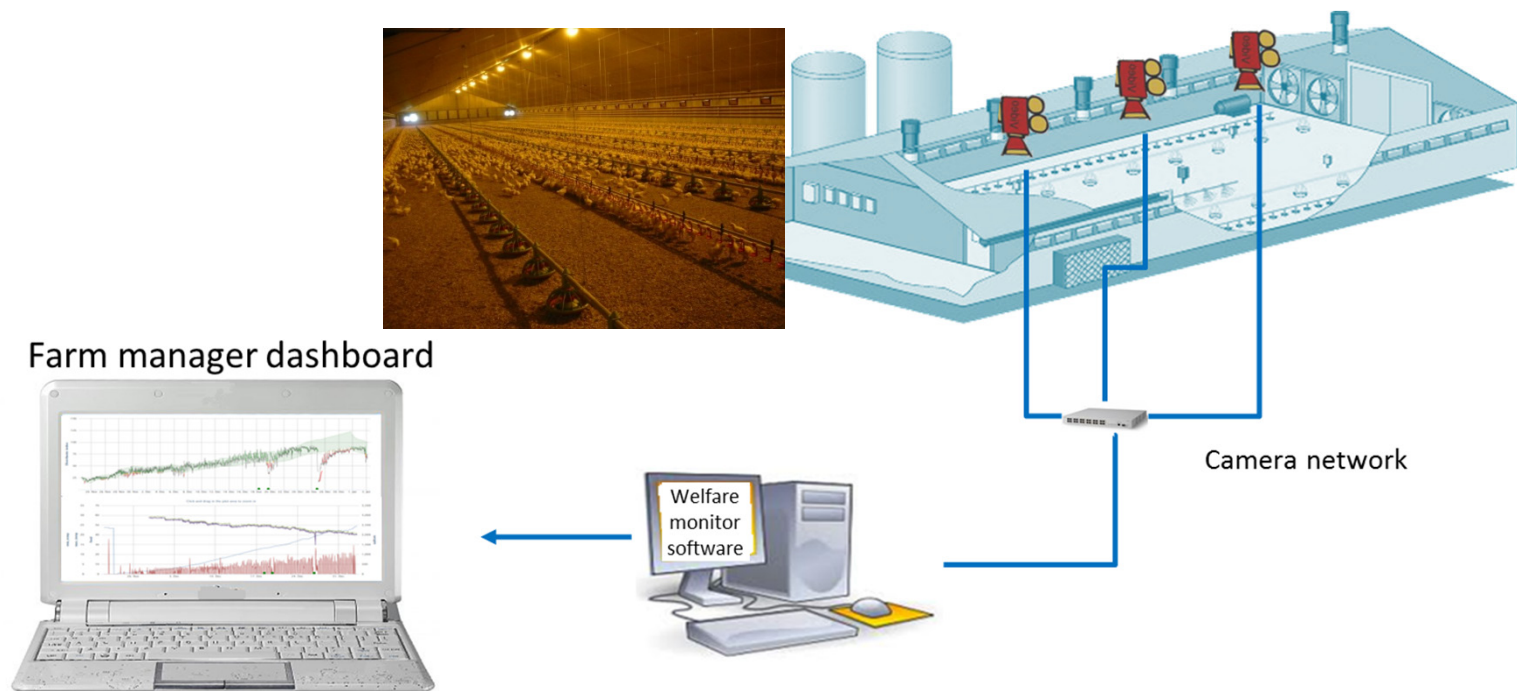
# Example 4:

## Early Warning System for Broiler Houses

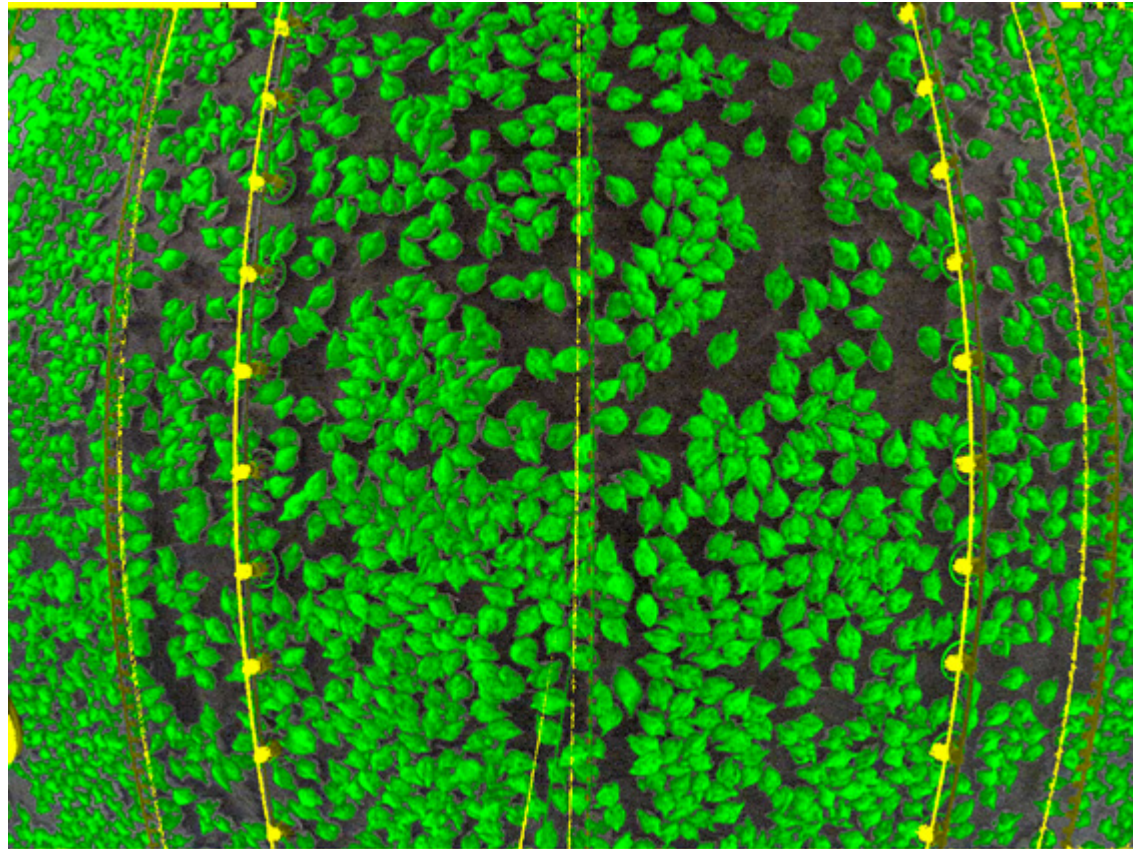
i.c.w. Fancom, The Netherlands

# Vision-based Early Warning System for Broiler Houses

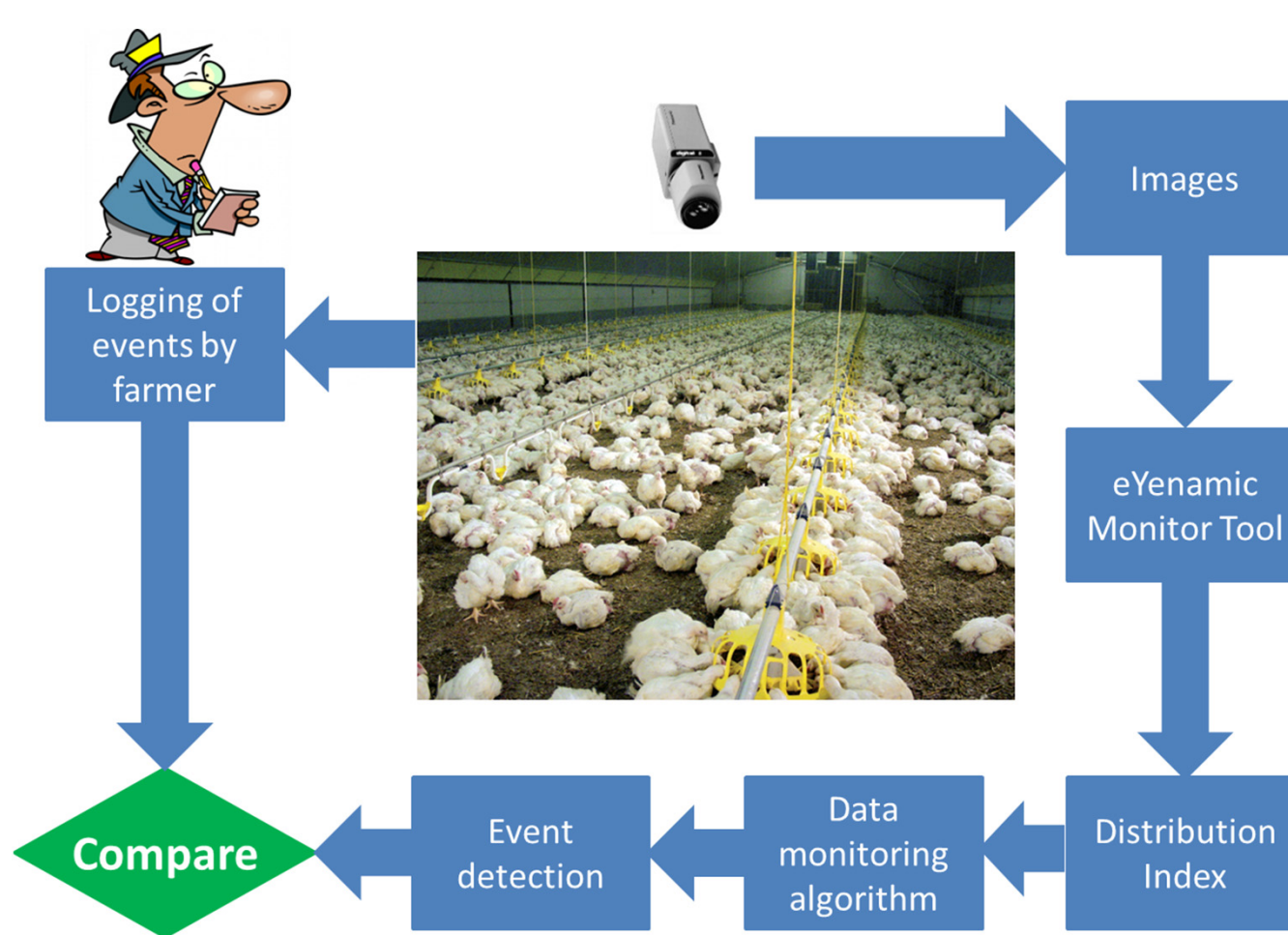
- Solution?
- Farmers can use automatic tools to continuously monitor the welfare and health of their broilers



- Detecting malfunctioning in broiler houses
- Produce alarms in real-time when malfunctioning happens (in feeder or drinker lines, light, climate control, etc.)

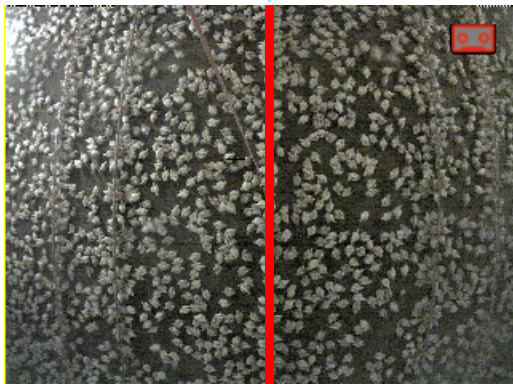


# Farmer logbook and manual video observation as references



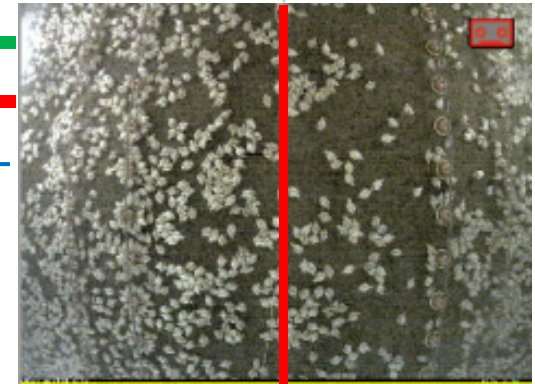
# Event detection

Feeder line



Normal situation

Defect Feeder line



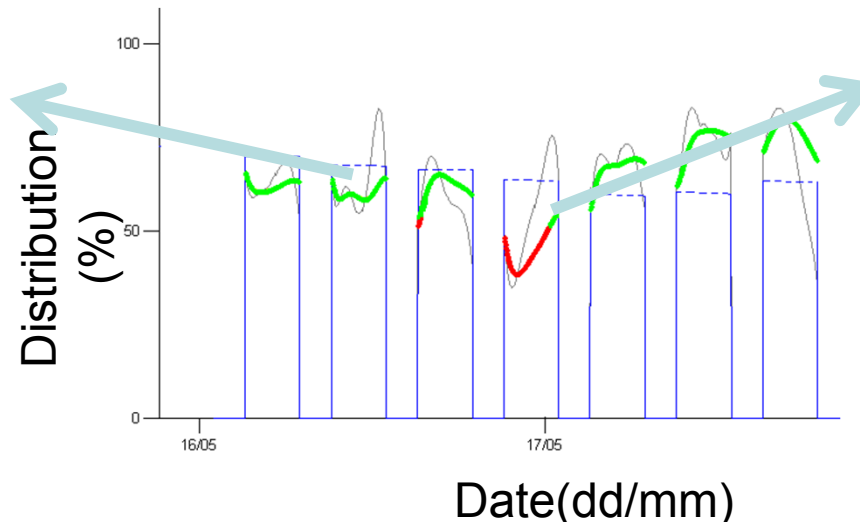
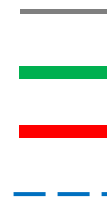
Problem in feeding lines

Measured values

Smoothed values within 25% range

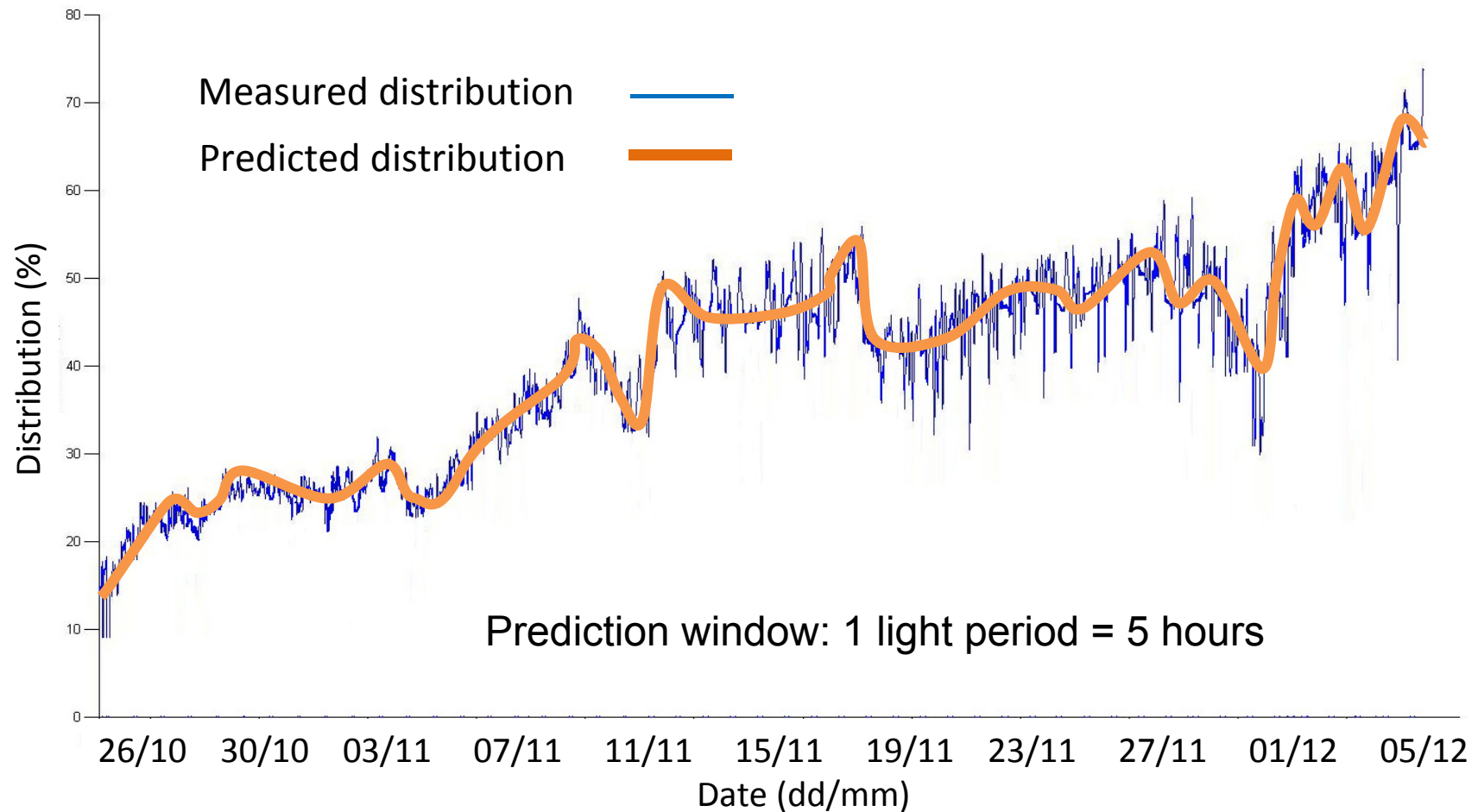
Smoothed values out of 25% range

Predicted values

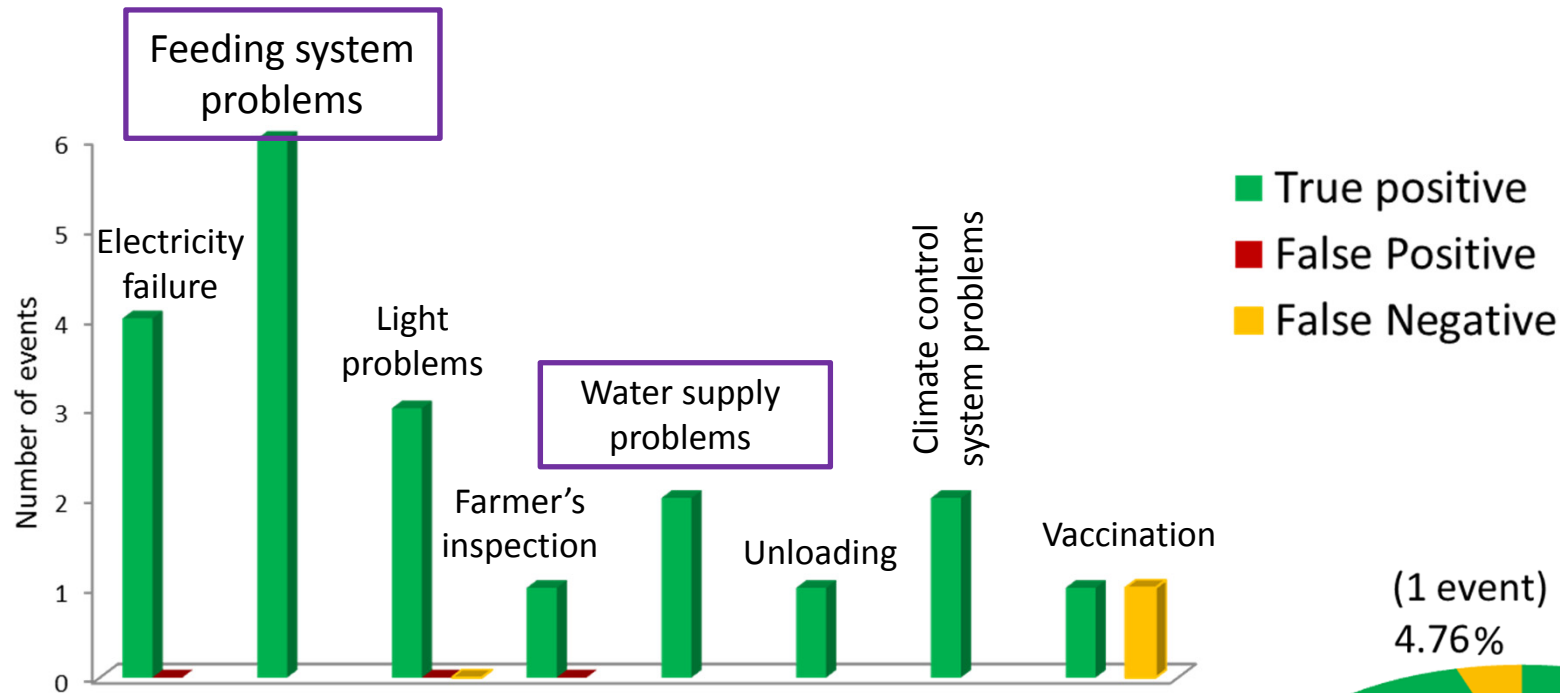




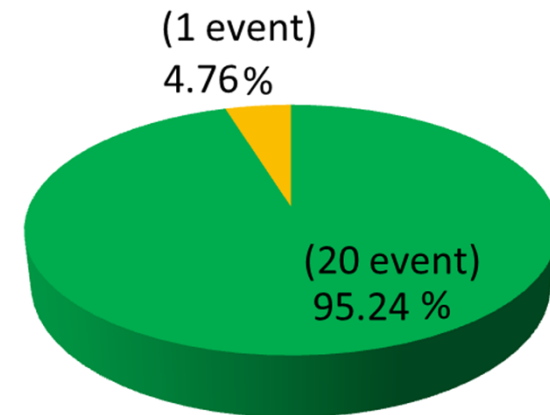
# Measured vs. modelled animal distribution



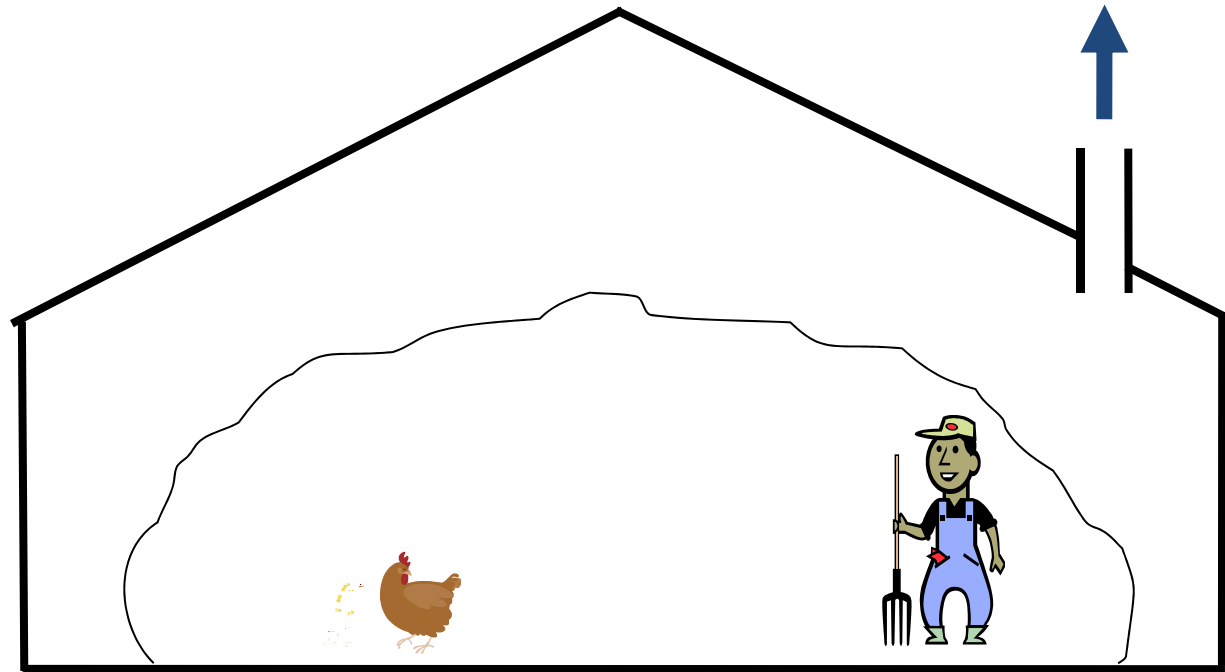
# Detected events in the validation experiment over 42 days



**Conclusion:** Events in a broiler house could be detected using top-view image analysis with an accuracy of 95.24 %



# Value:



Euros

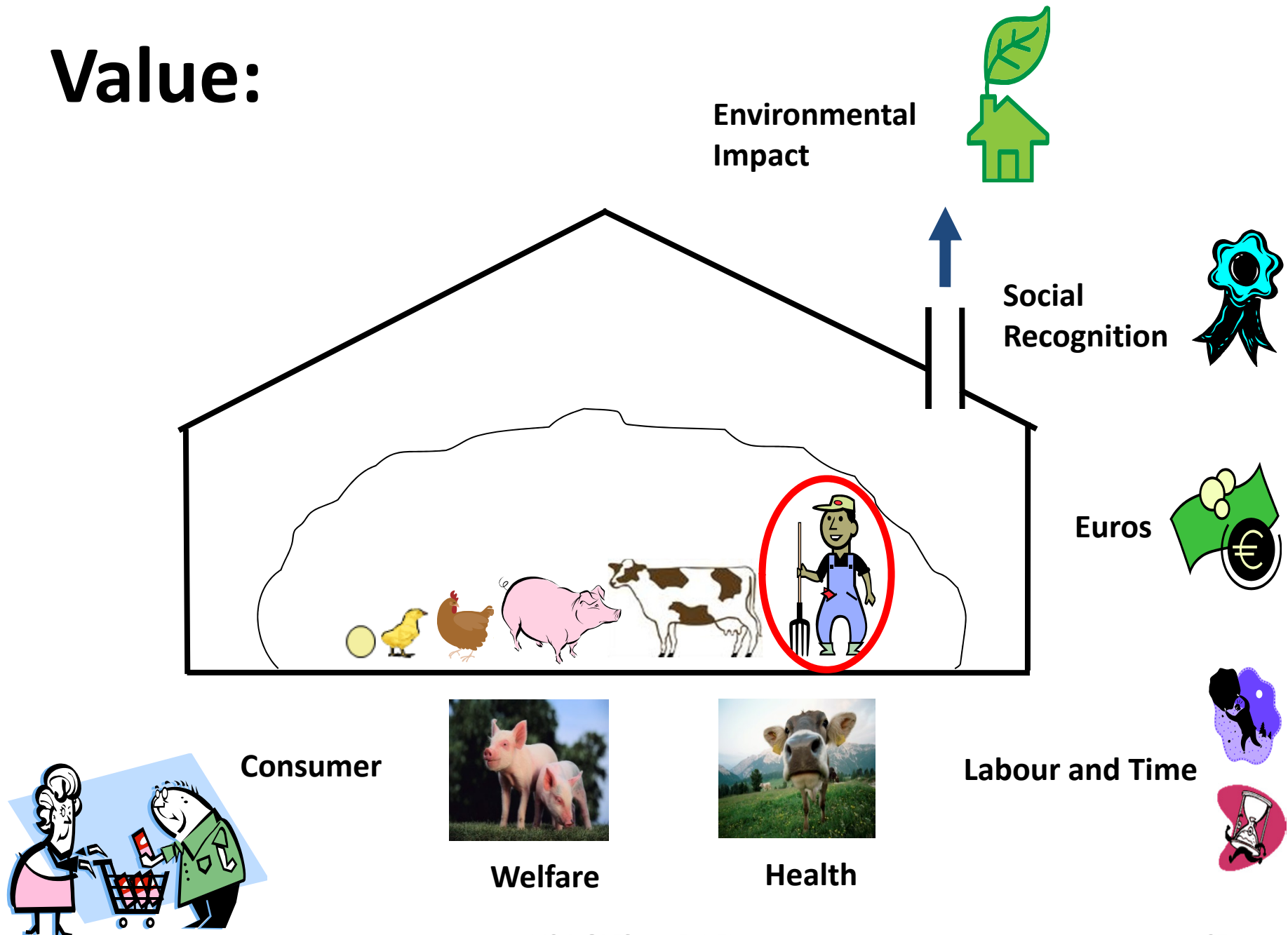


Labour and Time

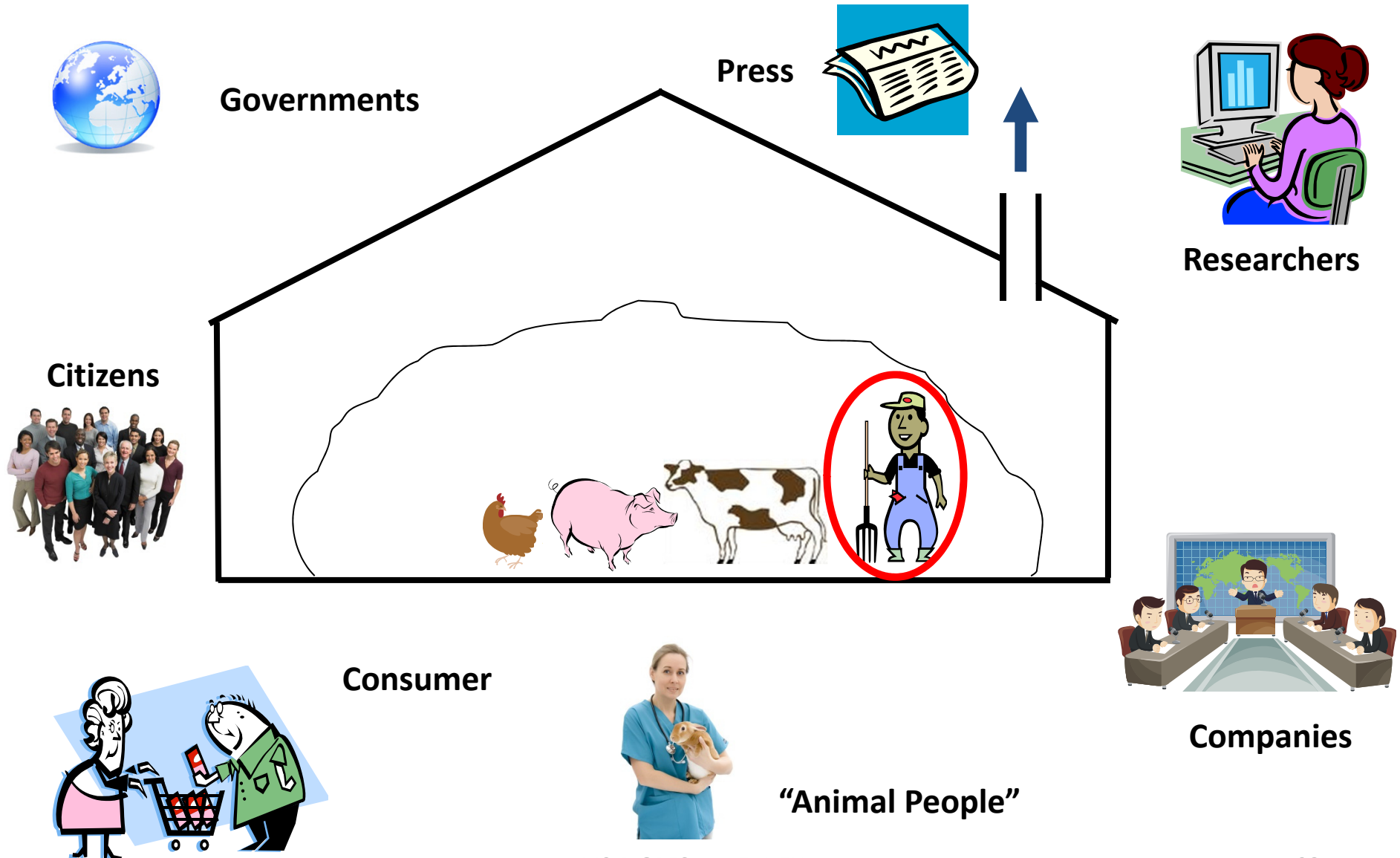


# Value: Summary

# Value:



# Value: For more Stakeholders



# Conclusions

- **Fully automated and continuous monitoring** (25 images/s, 20.000 sound samples/s, 24 h a day, 7 days a week) of animal variables is a reality
- PLF aims to offer a **management tool** that creates added value for the stakeholders, and meanwhile improves animal welfare, animal health, environmental impact, labour and time, euros (€), and social recognition
- **Value** must be created for different stakeholders
- If the farmer does not get value, the animal will not get it
- **Collaboration:** “animal people” & “PLF people”

# 7<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Precision Livestock Farming - ECPLF 2015, Milan - Italy



*15 - 18 September 2015*

Organiser: Dr. Marcella Guarino

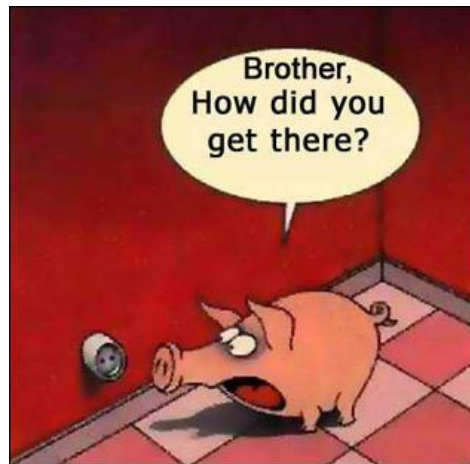


# *Thanks for your attention*

For more information you can check our website:

<http://www.m3-biores.be>

Questions



Contact: [daniel.berckmans@biw.kuleuven.be](mailto:daniel.berckmans@biw.kuleuven.be)